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A BRIEF RELATION

Of the Proceedings of the High COURT of JUSTICE, Againſt Sir

Henry Slingsby

And Doctor

John Hewet,

BODO BIBL. BODL.

Who for Treaſon againſt His Highneſs the Lord Protector, and the Commonwealth, in Plotting and Contriving a new and Bloody War, by bringing in *Charles Stuart* into this Nation, were both beheaded on Tower-Hill, on *Tueſday* the 8th of this Inſtant *June*.

Alſo their laſt Speech and Confeſſion at the ſaid place of Execution.

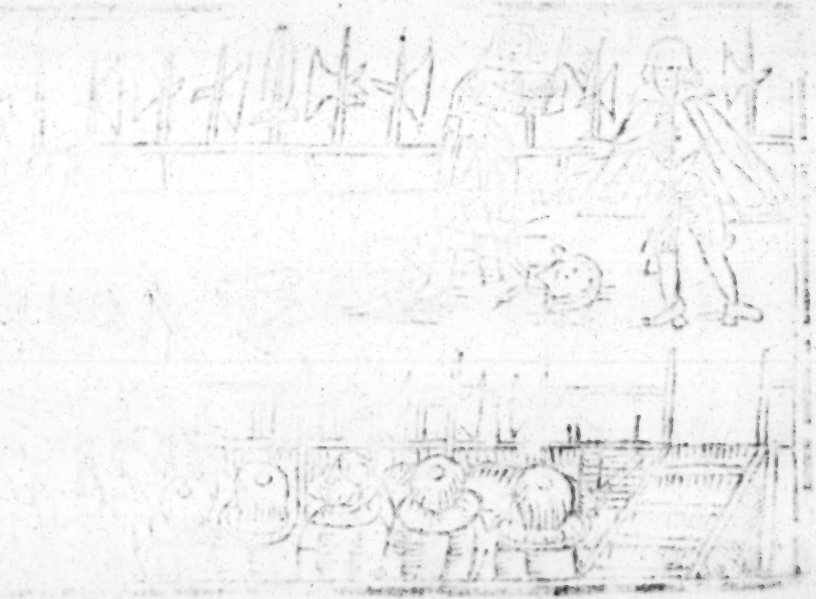
London, Printed for *John Andrews*, at the White Lion in *Pye-Corner*, 1658.

The Trial, Sentence, and Condemnation of Dr. John Hewet, *and Sir* Henry Slingsby, *who for high Treaſon was condemned, by the high Court of Juſtice, &c.*

AS the mercies of God to this Nation in preſerving us, have been many and wonderfull; ſo the miſchief and malice of men in plotting and contriving our deſtruction have been eminent and

notorious; ſo that we may ſay with the Pſalmiſt, If it had not been the Lord who was on our ſide, when men plotted and contrived our ruine, we had been deſtroyed, but bleſſed be God in the very pit which our enemy diged for us, they themſelves have alwayes been taken: as *Job* ſaith out of ſix troubles, yea, out of ſeven hath God delivered us; he hath preſerved us from the ſword, from deſtruction by fire witneſſe the late intended deſperate Deſigne diſcovered, againſt this City I need not ſpeake of the Invaſion in 88. Nor of that helliſh Deſigne of the Gun-Powder Treaſon: though theſe ought never to be forgotten, our owne eyes will produce Examples enough. And, O that this might be the laſt. To paſſe by many which might be mentioned, I ſhall onely mention that of *Syndercomb*,

ſtill



ſtill freſh in memory, which was nothing in compariſon to this, to wit, the deſtruction of His Highneſs the Lord Protector, the good People of theſe Nations, and the bringing in of *Charles Stuart*, and certainly thereby to imbroil us in Blood and ruine. The chief actors in this laſt Deſigne were Sir *Henry Slingsby*, and *John Hewet* Doctor of Divinity; perſons to be pitied for their folly, in ruining themſelves: a Doctor of Divinity, and a mover of Sedition, Treaſon, and Rebellion; certainly theſe men were beſides themſelves, and the Doctor beſides his Text, may be ſeen in this following Relation.

Sir *Henry Slingsby* being firſt brought to Trial, was impeached of high Treaſon, for endeavouring to raiſe a new War, by bringing in *Charles Stuart* into *Hull*; he at firſt pleaded, *Not guilty*, and alſo

excuſed the matter, pretending it was onely in jeaſt: but it is not good jeafting with Edge-tooles. After this Doctour *Hewet* was araigned for high Treaſon, in theſe particulars: Firſt, In raiſing Forces, and traitorouſly levying War againſt his Highneſs, to ſubvert and deſtroy the Government. Secondly, In promoting *Charles Stuart* to be King of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; and keeping correſpondency with the ſaid *Charles Stuart*; and by giving out Commiſſions from the ſaid *Charles Stuart*, for the raiſing of Forces, for to maintain a new War.

The Indictment of high Treaſon being read, he not onely refuſed to plead, but began to queſtion the authority of the Court, and to give out very ſeditious ſpeeches to the people, againſt both the Government, and the Governours of the Nation;

Nation; endeavouring to take off the Peoples Affection from the preſent Government.

The Court after much patience and gentleneſs towards the Doctor, whoſe unhandſome carriage might have provoked them to advantages againſt him, were notwithſtanding all inforced to proceed againſt him to judgement.

Next after him was arraigned one Mr. *John Mordant*, brother to the Earle of Peterborough, who after examination of Witneſſes, and other circumſtances, was found Not-guilty, and thereupon he was quitted by the Court.

The next day the priſoners, *viz.* Sir *Henry Slingsby*, Doctor *John Hewet*, and Mr. *John Mordant*, were all three brought to the Bar, where the Judgement of the Court paſſed againſt them, as followeth: Sentence being to be given by the Lord Pre-

Prefident, his Lordſhip was pleaſed in the firſt place, to expreſſe himſelf very piouſly and ſeriouſly to the three Priſoners at the Bar, ſetting forth the hainouſneſſe of the ſaid Treaſon, exhorting them to repentance for the ſame, ſhewing them the ſad effects thereof both to themſelves and others. Which being done, the finall Sentence and Judgement of the Court was read by the Clerk, as followeth:

That upon conſideration of the Treaſons by them the ſaid *Henry Slingsby*, Knight, and *John Hewet* Doctor of Divinity, the Court being ſatisfied in Judgement and Conſcience, that they the ſaid Sir *Henry Slingsby*, and Doctor *John Hewet*, were both guilty of high Treaſon; for which aforeſaid Treaſon, we do adjudge you the ſaid Sir *Henry Slingsby* and *John Hewet*, as falſe Traitors to His Highneſs the

the Lord Protector, and the Commonwealth: to be conveyed back to the Tower, and from thence to be drawn through the City of *London* to the Gallows of *Tyburn*, and there to be hanged, and being alive, to be cut down, and their Bowels taken out and burnt; and their Heads cut off, and their Body divided into quarters, and after disposed of according to His Highness the Lords Protectors pleasure.

After this, severall godly and reverend Ministers, viz. Doctor *Reynolds*, Mr. *Joseph Caryl*, Mr. *Edmund Callamy*, and Mr. *Manton*, were ordered by the Commissioners, to repair forthwith to the said Sir *Henry Slingsby*, and Doctor *Hewet*, to fit and prepare them for death.

Saturday the fifth of this instant June was the Day appointed for the Execution of Sir *Henry Slingsby*

Slingsby, and Dr. *Hewet*, according to the foreſaid Sentence, and accordingly Warrants were iſſued forth for the Execution of the ſaid Sentence; but His Highneſſe the Lord Protector, upon addreſſe made to His Highneſſe, was graciouſly pleaſed to grant a Reprieve for the ſaid Sir *Henry Slingsby* and Doctor *Hewet*, untill *Tueſday* the Eighth day of this inſtant June; and to revoke the ſaid Sentence pronounced againſt them, doing them this honour, as to Order, That they the ſaid Sir *Henry Slingſby*, and *John Hewet*, ſhould be put to death, by having their Heads ſevered from their Bodies on Tower-Hill, and all other Circumſtances in the ſaid Sentence to be remitted.

And according to this Order of His Highneſs the ſaid Sir *Henry Slingsby*, and *John Hewet* Doctor of Divinity were both brought to the

the Scaffold on Tower-Hill, on Tueſday the Eigth day of this Inſtant June. The Scaffold being prepared about ten of the clock, the Lieutenant of the Tower of *London* delivered into the hands of the Sheriffs of *London* the priſoner Sir *Henry Slingsby*, who immediately conveyed him unto the Scaffold; there being ſeverall Companies both of Horſe and Foot, beſides the Officers belonging to the ſaid Sheriffs, attending to that purpoſe, where in the preſence of many thouſands of people, who were there to behold this woefull Tragedy, they aſcended the Scaffold. Sir *Henry Slingsby* being mounted the Scaffold, immediately began to take leave of his Friends there preſent, and to prepare himſelf for the ſtroke of death: he ſpake but little, being not above half an hour upon the Scaffold: ſeverall eminent Miniſters

nisters being there present, they all went to Prayers, which being done, he freely forgave the Executioner: Then laying downe his Head upon the Block, commending his Soul to God, gave the signe to the Executioner by spreading forth his Hands, who at one blow severed his Head from his Body. Which being done, his Corps was presently conveyed away in a Coffin prepared for that purpose.

After this, the Sheriff descending from the Scaffold, went down to the Tower, where the Lord Lieutenant of the Tower delivered into their custody the other Prisoner Dr. *John Hewet*, who being attended by several learned Divines, to wit. Dr *Wilde*, Dr. *Reeves*, and several others: they likewise also conveighed towards the Scaffold, where being come, they presently ascended. The Dr. being upon the

Scaffold

Scaffold kneeled down to prayers ſeveral times, and for the ſpace of ſome two hours continued ſpeaking, firſt to the Sheriff, after to the people there aſſembled, carried himſelf with much courage and reſolution, exhorting all men there preſent to prepare themſelves for death. Having ended his Speech, (the Particulars whereof are too large to be inſerted here) only theſe he inſiſted on, to clear himſelf, That he had no hand in the late Plot of Firing the City. He denyed that the Marqueſs of *Ormond* lay at his Houſe: or that he was at *Bruges* with *Charles Stuart*. He excuſed his ignorance in the Law, for not pleading to his Charge. He prayed particularly for *Charles Stuart*, and that Family. Which done, he again kneeled down to prayer, recommending himſelf to God, he roſe up again, and put on his cap, the Exe-

cutioner

cutioner put up his hair, who he freely forgave: then laying down his head upon the Block, he prepared himself for the dismal Stroak, and the sign being given, as before, by stretching forth his hands, the Executioner at one blow severed his head from his body: which being done, his Corps was likewise put into a Coffin, being at the Scaffold very ready for that purpose, and so was conveighed away by his friends, by whom great preparation is made for his Funeral, at *Gregory's* near *Pauls*.

Sic transit Gloria mundi.

FINIS.